

Application Serial No. 09/937,644
Date January 14, 2005
Reply to Office Action dated October 14, 2005

Page 2 of 9

Listing of the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A single-use hygiene item comprising:
a disposable absorbent element configured to absorb and retain bodily fluid passed by a user and containing absorbent material that gives off substances into the bodily fluid passed by the user and thereby changes the composition of the bodily fluid; and
an analysis device, the analysis device ~~including means for analyzing at least one characteristic of body fluid passed by the user, means for the analysis device~~ facilitating direct impingement of a portion of the bodily fluid passed by the user into contact with the analysis means separate from contact with the absorbent element, means for disposing the analysis device on the absorbent element, and ~~means configured~~ for separating the bodily fluid in the analysis device to be analyzed ~~in the analysis device~~ from the disposable absorbent element in an essentially fluid-tight manner; wherein the separating means is configured to retain bodily fluid that has penetrated to the absorbent element away from the analysis device and to prevent the bodily fluid contaminated by the absorbent material from falsifying an analysis of the analysis device.
2. (Currently Amended) The hygiene item in accordance with claim 1, wherein the separating means ~~is configured as~~ forms an insert in the absorbent element and contains the analysis device.
3. (Canceled)
4. (Previously Presented) The hygiene item in accordance with claim 2, wherein the insert has sidewalls extending up on a side facing the body.
5. (Previously Presented) The hygiene item in accordance with claim 2, wherein edges of the insert are folded over on an upper side of the analysis device.
6. (Previously Presented) The hygiene item in accordance with claim 2, wherein the insert is delineated by a fluid-impermeable film.

Application Serial No. 09/937,644
Date January 14, 2005
Reply to Office Action dated October 14, 2005

Page 3 of 9

7. (Previously presented) The hygiene item in accordance with claim 2 wherein the insert is located essentially flush-mounted with the upper side of the absorbent element facing the body.

8. (Previously Presented) The hygiene item in accordance with claim 2, wherein the analysis means is positioned up against one side of the separating means.

9. (Previously Presented) The hygiene item in accordance with claim 2, wherein the analysis means has a visual display unit.

10. (Previously Presented.) The hygiene item in accordance with claim 8, wherein a side of the separating means, against which the analysis device is disposed, is made transparent, at least in the area of the analysis means, so that a visual reading of a display unit is possible.

11. (Previously presented) The hygiene item in accordance with claim 2, wherein the separating means containing the analysis device is separable from the hygiene item.

12. (Previously presented) The hygiene item in accordance with claim 2, wherein the separating means containing the analysis device is detachably fastened to the hygiene item by means of one of an adhesive and a touch-sensitive means of attachment.

13. (Previously presented) The hygiene item in accordance with claim 2, wherein the insert containing the analysis device has a fluid absorbing and transport layer which transfers the bodily fluid to the analysis device.

14. (Previously presented) The hygiene item in accordance with claim 13, wherein the fluid absorbing and transport layer comprises cellulose fibers without the addition of superabsorbent polymer materials.

15. (Currently amended) An analysis device: comprising
a visual display unit;

Application Serial No. 09/937,644

Date January 14, 2005

Page 4 of 9

Reply to Office Action dated October 14, 2005

measuring composition of bodily fluids directly introduced into the analysis device associated with the visual display unit;

means for maintaining the analysis device in separate fluid-tight contact with a single-use hygiene item, the single-use hygiene item including an absorbent element configured to absorb and retain bodily fluids other than those directly introduced into the analysis device wherein the absorbent element contains absorbent material that gives off substances into the bodily fluid passed by a user and thereby changes the composition of the bodily fluid.